

Article - Health - General

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§20–1301.

- (a) In this subtitle the following words have the meanings indicated.
- (b) “Cultural and linguistic competency” means cultural and linguistic abilities that can be incorporated into therapeutic and medical evaluation and treatment, including:
 - (1) Direct communication in the patient’s primary language;
 - (2) Understanding and applying the roles that culture, ethnicity, and race play in diagnosis, treatment, and clinical care; and
 - (3) Awareness of how the attitudes, values, and beliefs of health care providers and patients influence and impact professional and patient relations.
- (c) “Health care professional” includes a physician, nurse, dentist, social worker, psychologist, pharmacist, health educator, or other allied health professional.
- (d) “Implicit bias” means a bias in judgment that results from subtle cognitive processes, including the following prejudices and stereotypes that often operate at a level below conscious awareness and without intentional control:
 - (1) Prejudicial negative feelings or beliefs about a group that an individual holds without being aware of the feelings or beliefs; and
 - (2) Unconscious attributions of particular qualities to a member of a specific social group that are influenced by experience and based on learned associations between various qualities and social categories, including race and gender.
- (e) “Program” means the Cultural and Linguistic Health Care Professional Competency Program.

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